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BUCH'S BULLETIN NO. 13

Unique

Creations and

Horticultural

Selections

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To My Glad Friends:

In my quest for new gladiolus breeding stocks during the past 20 years I have tried many species from Eurasia, tropical and eastern Africa and the Cape. Aside from new forms and colors, resistance to diseases and pests are most needed today. Which means that new blood must be introduced, and soon.

I have collected and endeavored to increase those species likely to be of use here, maintaining a sort of stud lot for breeding purposes. I have used most of them at various times and am even now increasing a number of true hybrids which will be offered in future lists. For over 15 years I have been breeding the red out of the yellow and blue horticultural varieties. For almost the same length of time I have been trying to resurrect the fragrance that some of the earlier hybrids had. I have been fairly successful in these efforts. My alternate-petaled originations are familiar to most glad growers.

While this list is primarily prepared for hybridists, those connoisseurs and fanciers who delight in the unusual, the home gardener will find most of my offerings of more than ordinary interest because of their differences from the standard garden varieties. Other species and additional Irid cousins are being propagated, to be offered as stocks permit. Some surprises are in store for the future beautification of your gardens and homes.

PHILIP O. BUCH

FOR YOUR GUIDANCE

Everything, except the greenhouse rarities, is grown in my private experimental garden and should grow for you in similar or warmer climate. Listings are at retail only, in the quantities and at the prices quoted, subject, of course, to prior sale. Six may be ordered at the dozen rate, 50 at the hundred rate, when so quoted.

I do not sell wholesale because there is not enough stock of these rarities available. However, any Grower interested in exclusive rights to grow, list and sell one or more of my own creations can have a good proposition if inquiry is made on his letterhead.

Orders are filled in rotation and delivered prepaid at proper planting time. No corms shipped in January or February, but seeds can be mailed any time. Terms—Cash with order. No foreign orders accepted at present.

Days to bloom, when given, are based upon performance here (latitude about that of New York City, altitude 550 feet) without artificial watering or chemicals. If you want something different—study this list carefully. No catalog, however large and attractive, contains all these rarities. Many are exclusive with me—and there are more coming!

GLADIOLUS ALTERNATUS

(Alternate-petaled Gladiolus)

This new race of horticultural hybrids was developed in my experimental garden since 1926. I have transposed the small or "lip" petals of the older type flower so that they alternate with the larger sepals around the perianth, thereby producing the only gladiolus type with symmetrical florets. Since their introduction, others have continued the breeding and are offering similar types under the descriptions "upright", "lily", "amaryllis", or "miniature", misnomers all. Some stocks are low and are withdrawn for propagation.

ALTERNATUS TRIADIC (1943) Lg. Dec. 93 days. (Alt. Triad x Pink Beauty x Winged Victory bud sports) Sepals and alternating petals light red, each with a pale yellow blotch. \$1.50 each.

ALTERNATUS TRIANGLE (1946) Sm. Dec. 83 days. (Alt. Premier x Seedling 478 bud sport x Seedling 37) Sepals and alternating petals light red, each blotched pale yellow with a fine dark red line. \$1.50 each.

ALTERNATUS TRIANON (1936) Sm. Dec. 103 days. (Princely bud sport, selfed) Sepals light red with dark red plume, alternating petals light red with red-violet plume. 50c each.

STANDARD GLAD CREATIONS

AMBER GLEAM (1939) Lg. Dec. 103 days. (Gloriana x Betty Nuthall) Light orange-red with shining yellow blotch. Height 5 to 6 feet; florets, 4 to 5 inches, depending on how you grow it. Large, \$1.00 each; Medium, 75c; Small, 50c.

BERTHA M. BUCH (1932) Lg. Dec. 95 days. Deep rose pink with pale yellow blotch overlaid ruby. Broad foliage, strong stem. Height, 5 feet; florets, 5 in. 35c each.

ROCKAWAY (1946) A half hybrid (G. psittacinus x alternate-petaled bud sport) charmingly like the species, but more red, and with FOUR blotches. This carries new potentials for the hybridist. \$4.00 each.

CANARY BIRDS—Pure yellows, ranging from palest to deep primrose, from which the red has been bred out for many years. Some are worth propagating, but all are very decorative for cutting. \$1.50 dozen. Cormels, 35c dozen. Seeds, 25c packet.

EARLY BIRDS—These bloom in less than 70 days in the garden in a fine color range. Carefully selected seedlings, the results of crossing the earliest bloomers over the years. Good for forcing, too, from March on. \$2.00 dozen. Cormels, 50c dozen. Seeds, 25c packet.

LADY LUCK CORMELS—The offspring of my breeders and unbloomed seedlings. There are some excellent standard varieties and their offspring among these. An economical way to start a good mixed cut flower collection. 25c dozen.

FRAGRANT GARDEN GLADS

BERTHA MARY (1943) Sm. Dec. 72 days. (Mibloom x Incense) Light red with pale yellow blotch. Delicately fragrant indoors. 4 ft. \$1.50 each.

PHYLLIS THERESA (1943) Sm. Dec. 70 Days. (Rose Ice x Incense) Light red with pale yellow blotch overlaid with red. Faint fragrance indoors. \$1.50 each.

FRAGRANT CORMELS—From such varieties as Perfume, Frilled Fragrance, Rose Gem, Odora, New Era, Golden Fragrance, Summer Fragrance, Mibloom, and several seedlings, all more or less fragrant if your olfactory nerves are in working order. Mixed only, and as they come out of the bag. You can identify most of them when they bloom. \$1.00 dozen.

FRAGRANT-CROSS SEEDS

Hand pollinated by myself. First time offered by anyone. 6 for 50c. Not more than 12 seeds of one cross to a customer. Your choice—

Phyllis Theresa x Odora
Bertha Mary x Odora
Bertha Mary x Phyllis Theresa
Mibloom x Odora

BOTANICAL GLADIOLUS

(Summer-flowering Garden Species)

G. COOPERII (Plateau Region, South Africa) Supposedly a variety of G. psittacinus, but I find it grows much taller (5 ft.), often bears side spikes, and is more resistant to disease. Flowers much larger and more yellow. Rare. August. \$2.00 each.

G. DRACOCEPHALUS (Natal) Narrow, hooded, green flowers turn bronzy when mature. Fine purple lines. Distinct novelty. 5 ft. August. 50c each.

G. PRIMULINUS (Southern Rhodesia) Dainty, hooded, pure primrose yellow flowers airily borne on graceful thin stems. July-August. \$3.00 dozen.

G. PSITTACINUS (Natal) Hooded flowers with spread wings.

One of the progenitors of our garden glads. Yellow, heavily lined red. Some of these were grown from seed and may be hybrids. August. As is, 35c each. (Roguing is being done annually to clear out undesirables)

G. QUARTINIANUS (Tropical Africa) Blood red with yellow throat, or mottled. Blooms very late. Better suited to latitudes south of Virginia. I have never bloomed it here. Cormels only, 25c each.

G. UNKNOWN SPECIES—Taller than *G. psittacinus*, shorter than *G. dracocephalus*. Florets similar in shape to those of *G. primulinus*, but twice as large. Light yellow ground so thickly overlaid with fine red lines that it appears brownish-red. Clear light yellow blotch. The flowers resemble descriptions of both *G. decoratus* and a form of *G. Quartinianus* found in Equatoria, but it has not been definitely identified, to my knowledge. Multiplies rapidly, seems disease resistant, and I highly recommend it to hybridists for new blood. July-August. I offer a very limited number of this rare summer bloomer at \$10.00 each, one to a customer. Better inquire before ordering.

NEW TRUE HYBRID SEEDS

Hand pollinated by myself and not available from any other hybridist. Resulting seedlings will be absolutely new summer blooming true hybrids. 3 for \$1.00. Not more than 6 seeds of one cross to anyone. Your choice—

- G. Cooperii* x Unknown Species
- G. dracocephalus* x Unknown Species
- G. primulinus* x Unknown Species

SPRING FLOWERING SPECIES

(For Garden or Greenhouse)

These are the Eurasian species, truly miniature gladiolus, the flowers seldom over one inch wide. Hardy as tulips here, or may be similarly forced in a cool greenhouse. Require October planting.

G. ANATOLICUS (Armenia) Dainty pink and white flowers on a small plant. Mid-June. 50c each, \$5.00 dozen.

G. BYZANTINUS (Turkey) More robust, to 2½ ft. Light violet red flowers with white line on lower segments. Need not be lifted for several years, as it produces few cormels. Early June. 50c each, \$5.00 dozen.

G. ILLYRICUS (Yugoslavia) Also naturalized in England, but scarce. Slender leaves, plant to 1½ ft. Bright magenta flowers. Cormels produced at ends of stolons, like *G. primulinus* and *G. Quartinianus*. Early June. Rare. \$1.00 each, \$10.00 dozen.

G. SEGETUM (Italy) Plant similar to above. Bright carmine-pink flowers with white line on lower segments. Very faint odor. June. \$1.00 each, \$10.00 dozen.

GREENHOUSE SPECIES

(May also be grown outdoors in frostfree climates)

These dainty rare Cape species are made available for the first time through the cooperation of a midwestern friend who grows them from seed in a greenhouse as a hobby. I am privileged to offer a strictly limited number of these American grown corms as listed below. They require October-November planting in a cool greenhouse, 35 to 50 degrees, but occasional drops to freezing for short periods will not harm them. They dislike high temperatures and wet feet. Soil mixture should be leaf mold and sand, or good compost and granulated peat moss. Use only organic fertilizers, such as bone meal, or dried cow or sheep manure sparingly. Plant 2 to 3 inches deep.

G. ANGUSTUS—Slender, strong growing plant, 1½ ft. Creamy white flowers with red blotch, excellent for cutting. One of the easiest and best of these charmers. April. \$1.00 each.

G. CALLISTUS—Strong grower, to 3 ft. Pale pink or white flowers with lavender or purple markings on upper segments. Lower segments enlarged like an inverted *G. primulinus*. Color

varies, some being self colored. Faintly fragrant in sun. April. \$1.00 each.

G. CARINATUS—Supposedly a blue form of *G. recurvus*, but it has broader leaves. Grows to 2 ft. Lavender blue flowers with yellow markings, sweetly scented. \$1.00 each.

G. GRACILIS—Rigid leaves with dilated margins. Grows to 2 ft. Very fragrant pale lilac blue flowers with yellow markings. February. \$1.00 each.

HOLLAND IMPORTS

(Same general culture as for Cape species)

G. COLVILLEI (England) The first hybrids (1823-72) of any commercial importance and a good strain for growing under glass. Parentage: *G. tristis* var. *concolor* *x* *G. cardinalis*—both fragrant.

var. *ALBUS*—Pure white, \$3.50 dozen

var. *ROSEUS*—Fine pink, \$6.50 dozen

var. *RUBRA*—Carmine red, \$4.50 dozen

G. CUSPIDATUS (Cape of Good Hope) Dwarf plant. Flowers white, flaked purple. Sometimes varies to pale pink. April. \$3.50 dozen.

G. GRANDIS (Western Cape) Slender, terete leaves and stems to 2 ft. Fairly large creamy white flowers, very fragrant evenings, but faint and elusive in daytime, much like *G. tristis*. \$3.50 dozen.

G. TUBERGENI var. *CHARM*—A hybrid with a most complicated, but recorded, ancestry. Result of crossing a Herald hybrid with *G. tristis* var. *concolor*. The Heralds were progeny of a *Nanus* x *Childsi* cross. *Nanus* came from *G. cardinalis* x *Ramosus*. *Childsi* came from *Grandavensis* x *G. Saundersii*. *Ramosus* hybrids came from *G. floribundus* (syn. *oppositiflorus*) x *G. cardinalis*. *Gandavensis*, the first hybrid garden glads, came from *G. psittacinus* x *G. cardinalis*. Thus, five species' blood runs in this new hybrid, three of which are fragrant, with *G. cardinalis* impressed three times. Surely this carries potentials for any hybridist. The flowers resemble those of the Colvillei hybrids, but are much larger, bright purplish rose with white centers. Requires deeper planting as it is more robust than those above, and it may be planted several months later. Can be forced from April on. \$3.50 dozen.

WORTHY IRID COUSINS

ACIDANTHERA BICOLOR (Ethiopia) Exquisitely fragrant long tubed creamy white flowers with chocolate blotches on gracefully arched 18 inch stems. September. 50c each, \$5.00 dozen. Acidantheras require same culture as garden gladiolus.

ACIDANTHERA MURIELAE (Tanganyika) Pure white, just as fragrant flowers with deep maroon blotches, on straight 4 ft. stems. Very rapid multiplier and easy. Should be in every glad grower's garden. 50c each, \$5.00 dozen.

FREESIA, GIANT HYBRIDS—A new strain, improved in size, height and vigor, and with a sweet fragrance that appeals to all. Plant 3 inches deep and 3 inches apart in a cool greenhouse, October to January, to extend blooming period. Choice of white, blue, rose, pink, red, yellow, lavender. \$1.25 dozen. \$7.00 per 100.

IXIA—Grows on tough, wiry stems, a splendid flower for cutting. Culture same as for Freesia, or may be wintered outside under a heavy mulch of straw and leaves south of Virginia. All-color mixture, \$2.00 dozen.

SPARAXIS HYBRIDS—Brilliant reds, orange, gold, etc. among these, vivid splashes of color. Fine for cutting. Freesia culture. \$1.50 dozen, \$8.00 per 100.

TIGRIDIA (Mexico and Central America) Bright, huge color-lighted shells, borne above peculiarly plaited leaves from July until frost. Stems to 2 ft. After digging in fall, allow to dry, then cut off leaves but do not remove roots. Separate colors:

Red or Yellow, 25c each, \$2.50 dozen

White or Rose, 35c each, \$3.50 dozen

Wine Red or American Beauty, 50c each, \$5.00 doz.

SPRING
SUMMER
and
WINTER-BLOOMING
GLADIOLUS
and
other
RARE IRIDS
SPECIES
and
HYBRIDS

